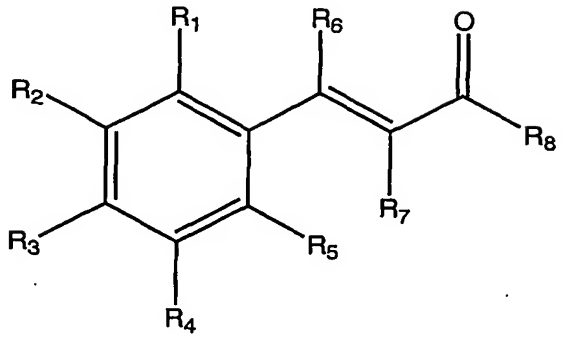
CLAIMS:

1. A compound having the general formula I:



I

wherein

R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, are each independently selected from H, halogen, NO_2, CN, C_{1-6}alkyl, CF_3, aryl, heteroaryl, cylcoalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, OCF_3, OR18, SR18, OC_{1-6}alkyl, OC_{2-6}alkylNR18R19, Oaryl, Oheteroaryl, Ocycloalkyl, Ocycloheteroalkyl, OC_{1-6}alkylaryl, OC_{1-6}alkylheteroaryl, OC_{1-6}alkylcycloalkyl, OC_{1-6}cycloheteroalkyl, CO_2R18, C_{1-6}alkylCO_2R18, CONR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylCONR18R19, NR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, NR20C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR20C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, NR18COR19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18COR19, C_{1-6}alkylNR20CONR18R19, NR20CONR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18SO_2R19, NR18SO_2R19;

R18, R19 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkyl cycloheteroalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C_{1-4}alkyl aryl, C_{1-4} alkyl heteroaryl, or may be joined to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered ring optionally containing an atom selected from O, S, NR21;

R20, R21 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl;

R6 is selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl,

R7 is selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl, SH, CN;

R8 is selected from OR9, NR9R10;

R9, R10 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylCO_2H, C_{1-4} alkyl cycloheteroalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C_{1-4}alkyl aryl, C_{1-4} alkyl heteroaryl, or may be joined to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered ring optionally containing an atom selected from O, S, NR11;

R11 is selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein

R1, R2, R3, R4 and R5 are each independently selected from H, OH, OC_{1-4}alkyl, OC_{1-4}alkylaryl, C_{1-4}alkyl, halogen;

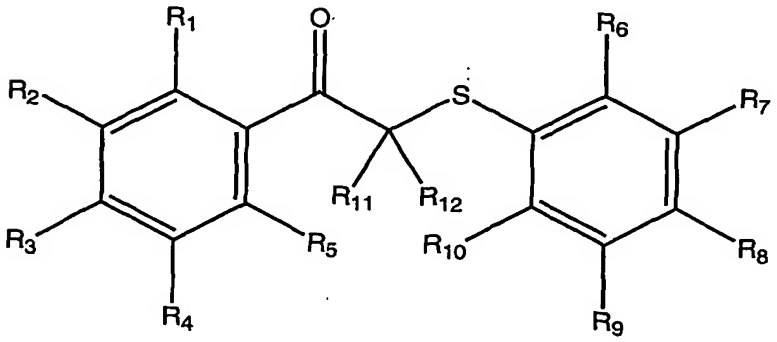
R6 is selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl,

R7 is selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl, SH, CN;

R8 is selected from OH, NR9R10;

R9, R10 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylCO_2H.

3. A compound having the general formula II:



II

wherein

R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, and R10 are each independently selected from H, halogen, NO_2, CN, C_{1-6}alkyl, CF_3, aryl, heteroaryl, cylcoalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, OCF_3, OR18, SR18, OC_{1-6}alkyl, OC_{2-6}alkylNR18R19, Oaryl, Oheteroaryl, Ocycloalkyl, Ocycloheteroalkyl, OC_{1-6}alkylaryl, OC_{1-6}alkylheteroaryl,

OC_{1-6}alkylcycloalkyl, OC_{1-6}cycloheteroalkyl, CO_2R18, C_{1-6}alkylCO_2R18, CONR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylCONR18R19, NR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, NR20C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR20C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, NR18COR19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18COR19, C_{1-6}alkylNR20CONR18R19, NR20CONR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18SO_2R19, NR18SO_2R19;

R18, R19 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkyl cycloheteroalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C_{1-4}alkyl aryl, C_{1-4} alkyl heteroaryl, or may be joined to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered ring optionally containing an atom selected from O, S, NR21;

R20, R21 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl;

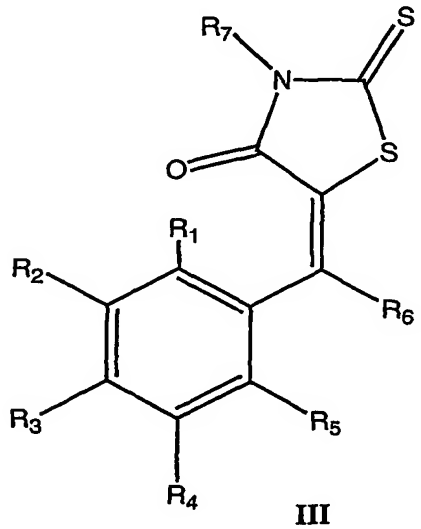
R11, R12 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl, halogen, OC_{1-4}alkyl.

4. A compound according to claim 3 wherein

R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R10 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl, OC_{1-4}alkyl, CO_2H, CN;

R11, R12 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl.

5. A compound having the general formula III:



III

wherein

R1, R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6 are each independently selected from H, halogen, NO_2, CN, C_{1-6}alkyl, CF_3, aryl, heteroaryl, cylcoalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, OCF_3, OR18, SR18, OC_{1-6}alkyl, OC_{2-6}alkylNR18R19, Oaryl, Oheteroaryl, Ocycloalkyl, Ocycloheteroalkyl, OC_{1-6}alkylaryl, OC_{1-6}alkylheteroaryl, OC_{1-6}alkylcycloalkyl, OC_{1-6}cycloheteroalkyl, CO_2R18, C_{1-6}alkylCO_2R18, CONR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylCONR18R19, NR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, NR20C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR20C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, NR18COR19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18COR19, C_{1-6}alkylNR20CONR18R19, NR20CONR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18SO_2R19, NR18SO_2R19;

R18, R19 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkyl cycloheteroalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C_{1-4}alkyl aryl, C_{1-4} alkyl heteroaryl, or may be joined to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered ring optionally containing an atom selected from O, S, NR21;

R20, R21 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl;

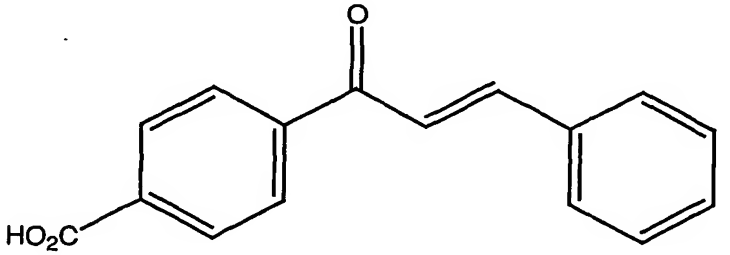
R7 is selected from H, C_{1-6}alkyl, CF_3, aryl, heteroaryl, cylcoalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, CO_2R18, C_{1-4}alkylCO_2R18, CONR18R19, C_{1-4}alkylCONR18R19, NR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, NR20C_{1-4}alkylNR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR20C_{1-4}alkylNR18R19, NR18COR19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18COR19, C_{1-6}alkylNR20CONR18R19, NR20CONR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18SO_2R19, NR18SO_2R19 wherein R18, R19 are as defined above.

6. A compound according to claim 5 wherein

R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, and R6 are each independently selected from H, halogen, OH, OC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl;

R7 is selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylCO_2H.

7. The compound of formula V:



V

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising

(a) one or more compounds according to any one of claims 1 to 7;

(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent.

9. A method for treating an autoimmune disease involving Fc receptor activity comprising administering to a subject in need of treatment with one or more compounds according to any one of claims 1 to 7 or a composition according to claim 8.

10. A method according to claim 10 wherein the autoimmune disease is selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis, immune thrombocytopenia purpura, systemic lupus erythematosus and Crohn's disease.

11. A method for obtaining a compound which modulates Fc receptor activity, the method comprising:

(a) providing or designing one or more compounds having structural characteristics to fit in the groove of the FcγRIIa structure; and

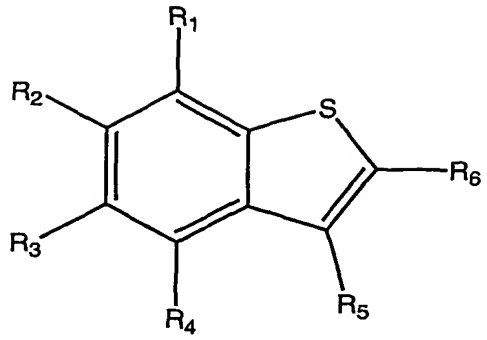
(b) screening the one or more compounds for modulating activity on the Fc receptor.

12. A method according to claim 11 wherein step (a) comprises functionalising the one or more compounds with one or more substituent groups.

13 A method according to claim 11 or claim 12 wherein the compounds are screened by a FcγRIIa dependent platelet activation assay and/or aggregation assay where platelets are activated using heat aggregated human immunoglobulin G as an immune complex.

13. A compound which modulates Fc receptor activity obtained by the method of any one of claims 11 to 13.

14. A method for treating an autoimmune disease involving Fc receptor activity comprising administering to a subject in need of treatment with a compound having the general formula IV:



IV

wherein

R1, R2, R3, R4, R5 and R6 re each independently selected from H, halogen, NO_2, CN, C_{1-6}alkyl, CF_3, aryl, heteroaryl, cylcoalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, OCF_3, OR18, SR18, OC_{1-6}alkyl, OC_{2-6}alkylNR18R19, Oaryl, Oheteroaryl, Ocycloalkyl, Ocycloheteroalkyl, OC_{1-6}alkylaryl, OC_{1-6}alkylheteroaryl, OC_{1-6}alkylcycloalkyl, OC_{1-6}cycloheteroalkyl, CO_2R18, C_{1-6}alkylCO_2R18, CONR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylCONR18R19, NR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, NR20C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR20C_{1-6}alkylNR18R19, NR18COR19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18COR19, C_{1-6}alkylNR20CONR18R19, NR20CONR18R19, C_{1-6}alkylNR18SO_2R19, NR18SO_2R19;

R18, R19 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkyl cycloheteroalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C_{1-4}alkyl aryl, C_{1-4} alkyl heteroaryl, or may be joined to form an optionally substituted 3-8 membered ring optionally containing an atom selected from O, S, NR21;

R20, R21 are each independently selected from H, C_{1-4}alkyl.

15. A method according to claim 14 wherein

R1, R2, R3, R4 are each independently selected from H, halogen, NO_2, OC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl

R5 is selected from H, Cl, OC_{1-4}alkyl, OC_{1-4}alkylaryl, O C_{3-6}cycloalkyl;

R6 is selected from CO_2H, $CONR_7R_8$;

R7, R8 are each independently selected from H, 5-tetrazole.